

HEIRS OF MOSES ELMER.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 761.]

JANUARY 24, 1857.

Mr. CLANSON, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims, made the following

**REPORT.**

*The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Apollos M. Elmer, for commutation pay of Moses Elmer, surgeon's mate in the revolutionary army, report:*

That it appears from the memorial and accompanying papers that the father of the petitioner, late of the county of Essex, in the State of New Jersey, was a surgeon's mate of the continental line of the revolutionary army, and served until the end of the war. He has never received commutation pay. About the year 1837 or 1838, a claim for it was presented to Congress, and a bill allowing the claim was reported and first passed the Senate for \$2,400, being the amount due without interest. At the same session it passed the House with an amendment allowing interest, but the bill as amended failed to reach the Senate, and was left among the unfinished business of the session. The committee, believing the facts stated in the memorial to be correct, and that it has been decided in various cases that surgeon's mates were entitled to commutation under the resolution of Congress, report the accompanying bill.

REPORT  
OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE

Presented to the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
IN SENATE FEBRUARY 1856

REPORT

The Commission on Private Land Claims, created by the act of March 3, 1855, has the honor to submit to the House of Representatives the following report. The Commission was organized on April 1, 1855, and has since that time been engaged in a careful and systematic investigation of the claims of private individuals and corporations to lands in the public domain. The Commission has held numerous public hearings, and has received many suggestions and criticisms from the public. It has also conducted extensive research into the history and law of private land claims, and has prepared a detailed report on the subject. The Commission believes that the following report will be of great value to the House of Representatives in its consideration of the subject of private land claims. It contains a full and complete statement of the facts and circumstances of the case, and a careful and impartial analysis of the law and equity of the claim. The Commission also recommends a course of action which it believes to be the most just and equitable in the premises. The Commission is confident that the House of Representatives will find the report to be a valuable and reliable source of information on the subject of private land claims.